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## THE COTTON MILL: THE HEROD AMONG INDUSTRIES

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Good old Nathaniel Morton, in his New England Memorial, assigned as one of the reasons why the Pilgrim Fathers left the Old World for the New this:

"That many of their children, through the extreme necessity that was upon them, although of the best dispositions and graciously inclined, and willing to bear part of their parents' burdens, were oftentimes so oppressed with their heavy labors, that although their spirits were free and willing, yet their bodies bowed under the weight of the same and became decrepit in their early youth, and the vigor of nature was consumed in the very bud."

When we begin to study the child labor system in England, which the Pilgrim Fathers found so oppressive to their children that its existence was one reason for coming to the New World, we find that the cotton mill occupied a bad eminence. All through the eighteenth century we find references to the employment of children of tenderest years in cotton mills. These references are mostly of a congratulatory nature that a place for the child has been found in the world of industry, and that the child is no longer an encumbrance but an asset. The attitude of the English people during this century may be summed up in the following quotation: "A quarter of the mass of mankind are children, males and females, under seven years old, from whom little labor is to be expected."

It is interesting to note that though the Pilgrim Fathers say they came to America partly to escape the oppression of their children, child labor preceded them, for in 1619, the year before the Fathers planted their considerable feet on Plymouth Rock, there is an acknowledgment of the General Court of Virginia of the one hundred children sent over, "save such as dyed in the waie." A letter from England in 1627 mentions incidentally the fact that "there are many ships going to Virginia, and with them fourteen or fifteen hundred children." These children were mostly paupers,

but were often kidnapped and bound out to service. In 1646 two houses were erected in Jamestown for the manufacture of linen, and the different counties were "requested to send two poor boys or girls, at least seven or eight years old, to be instructed in the art of carding, knitting and spinning." The textile industry did not flourish in Virginia, however, on account of its greater agricultural opportunities, and returning again to the Pilgrim Fathers, one finds in Johnson's sermon on "Wonder Working Providence," published in 1638, that he commended the industrious people of Rowley, Massachusetts, who had "built a fulling mill and caused their little ones to be very diligent in spinning cotton and wool."

It would seem that we must bring another indictment against the Pilgrim Fathers in addition to the familiar one, that having come to this country to escape religious persecutions, they so soon became persecutors themselves. For after they came to America to escape the evils of child slavery, they speedily inaugurated the system on American soil. In 1656, considering the development of manufactures in Massachusetts, the order was issued that "all hands not necessarily employed on other occasions, as women, boys, and girls, are hereby enjoined to spin according to their skill and ability."

Tench Cox argues that women and children will meet the demand for factory labor with the newly invented power machinery. In Nile's Register the statement is made that the work of manufacturing does not demand able-bodied men, but "is now better done by little girls from six to twelve years old." Governor Davis, of Massachusetts, in his message of 1835, echoes the sentiment of Lord Shaftesbury in England, that child labor had "spread from the cotton mills into other industries" by saying that, "not only the machines in the textile manufacture, but thousands of others are equally worked by females and children."

Earlier than this, in 1829, Frances Wright, an English woman, in an address to an American audience, says: "In very many districts you have children worked for twelve hours a day, and you will soon have them, as in England, worked to death." Thus, we see that child labor had grown in New England through the eighteenth century as it had grown in Old England, and in the nineteenth century, a half century after the first factory act in Old England, there began to be protests against the evil in New England.

In 1831 in a report on cotton, made at a convention of the

Friends of Industry, the total number of children employed in cotton factories is given as 4,691; of this number 3,472 were from Rhode Island, 484 from New York, 439 from Connecticut, 217 from New Jersey, 60 from New Hampshire, 19 from Vermont, and none from Massachusetts. It may be remarked, however, that the "friends of industry" have always taken a roseate view of the child labor system. As was stated to them not long ago by a Georgia legislator, they believe "in the protection of infant industries and the exploitation of infant industry."

### *Ineffective Laws*

In 1842, an act was passed in Massachusetts making a ten-hour day for children under twelve, but only those employers were convicted who "knowingly" violated it, a safeguard which was repeated in the Alabama law of 1907, the repeal of which proviso we find Governor O'Neal urging in his message to the Alabama legislature in 1911.

In Massachusetts Senate Document No. 69, we find that the Rhode Island law, requiring a low minimum of schooling before employment, was also a dead letter: "There has never been a complaint, although it has been violated constantly, the employment of minors now depending on the necessity and cupidity of the parents and the interests of the manufacturers. The manufacturing interests are now a controlling power in the state, and it would be extremely difficult to enforce a law against their wishes." So, in the report of a committee of the Massachusetts legislature in 1866, witnesses from New Bedford and Fall River testified that children of seven were employed. From Lawrence it was reported that a great many children from twelve to fifteen were working at night, "the majority of those who do night work are under eighteen years of age."

In a report of the Bureau of Labor as late as 1870, an "overlooker," of seven years' experience, says: "Six years ago I ran night work from 6.45 p. m. to 6 a. m., with 45 minutes for meals, eating in the room. Children were drowsy and sleepy, having known them to fall asleep standing up at their work. I have had to sprinkle water to awaken them after having spoken to them until hoarse. This was done gently, with no intention of hurting them." In the same report is the following quotation: "A witness described

to us an instrument for whipping children at a factory in Rhode Island, consisting of a leather strap eighteen inches long, with tacks driven through the striking end." The cruelty to children of overseers in Southern cotton mills has been mentioned by some writers, especially the throwing of water into the faces of children who went to sleep at night. Probably this particular practice has ceased, though, perhaps, occasional instances will not be so vehemently denied now that we have the precedent established in New England history. Strong coffee at the midnight hour is considered a more humane alternative for the purpose of keeping children awake.

### *Rapid Increase*

So much for the history of child labor in New England before 1870. The census of that year was the first to take notice of the extent of child labor in the United States, and its figures aroused new interest on the subject. Since that time the social sin of the system has been more clearly recognized by the social conscience, yet child labor increased in the decade between 1890 and 1900.

The census of 1900 reported 1,750,178 child breadwinners, ten to fifteen years of age, of whom 1,054,446 were engaged in agricultural occupations, which are usually considered advantageous to the child unless there is interference with his education. However, even in this occupation there were 237,252 children employed who were not reported as "belonging to farmers' families," and recent investigations have proved that hordes of these children are employed in picking berries and vegetables, in the cranberry bogs, and in the canning of fruit and vegetables. So there were 934,985 children between the ages of ten and sixteen employed in various industries, besides those who were members of farmers' families. The census enumerators were not required to report child breadwinners under ten, nevertheless, there was a large number reported by some enumerators who, to this extent, disregarded their instructions, 997 being reported from three cotton mill districts in the South. It may also be readily granted that the census enumeration, while the best we have, falls short of the truth from the fact that where deception had been practiced by parents concerning the ages of children whom they had sent into employment, there would be an inclination to make the same representations to the census enumerators. One may find from Census Bulletin 69, entitled "Child Labor in the

United States," that the cotton mill is still the chief sinner against the child. To quote from the bulletin, "To a greater extent than any other manufacturing or mechanical industry the cotton mill furnishes employment to children. . . . The proportion which children ten to fifteen years of age formed of the total number of cotton mill operatives in 1900 is almost three times as great in the Southern States as it is in the Northern and Western. In the North about one cotton mill operative out of every ten was ten to fifteen years of age, while in the South the corresponding figures were about three out of every ten. Massachusetts, which reported the largest number of cotton mill operatives, had the smallest per cent for operatives ten to fifteen years of age. In North Carolina children of ten to fifteen years were the most numerous, and formed the largest per cent of the total. As a rule, the proportion of children was greater for females than for males in both sections of the country, though the difference was more marked in the South than in the North."

### *Growth of Industry*

The growth of the cotton mill industry in the South has been one of amazing development. In 1880 the number of cotton spindles in the South was 667,754; in 1910, 10,650,000, an increase of 1,495 per cent in thirty years, as against an increase of 161 per cent in the country at large. There has been made recently under the direction of the Federal Bureau of Labor, an investigation concerning the conditions of child and woman workers in several industries, the report completed containing nineteen volumes, the first only of which has been printed, entitled, "The Cotton Textile Industry." This volume, of 1,044 pages, contains the severest indictment ever brought against any industry in this country concerning the employment of children. The report shows that 20 per cent of the employees in Southern cotton mills are under the age of sixteen in spite of the laws passed in all the Southern States since 1900. But the report itself shows it has been ultra-conservative in its estimate of the number of children employed. It says, "Agents' estimates of ages have been disregarded in every case, and only age data supported by positive evidence has been used." It gives the following illustrations to show that its reports "come far short of the truth." In one mill in South Carolina the agent reported: "There is abso-

lutely no question that seventeen of these children are under twelve years of age." Yet only eight were positively so reported, as the ages of only this number could be positively established.

"Concerning another mill in South Carolina the agent reported: 'The mill employs many children, and the smallest I have seen working in any mill. I asked five exceptionally small ones how old each was, and each answered, "I don't know." These children, the superintendent says, work from 6 P. M. to 6 A. M. . . . I know beyond a reasonable doubt that there are ten or twelve children under twelve working in the mill, seven or eight of them at night.

"One of these children is an emaciated little elf, fifty inches high and weighing perhaps forty-eight pounds, who works from 6 at night till 6 in the morning, and who is so tiny that she has to climb up on the spinning frame to reach the top row of spindles.'

"All children at this mill were reported by mill officials to be over twelve years of age, and the statement was disproved in only two cases.

"In another mill in North Carolina the agent counted nine or ten children obviously under twelve years of age, but none were positively so reported.

"These few examples illustrate the difficulties of the investigation and show that the reports on some mills at least come far short of the truth as to the extent of the illegal employment of children."

In some mills, perhaps owing to the greater diligence or sagacity of particular investigators, the percentage of children employed was much higher than the average. In one yarn mill in South Carolina employing 168 persons, 70 were children under sixteen. In a cloth mill in that state, 39.6 per cent of the employees were children. In Mississippi, which then had no child labor law, 42.8 per cent of the employees in a small yarn mill were children. In 143 establishments visited, 9,126 children were found employed, 753 of whom were under the legal age of twelve years, of whom 161 were employed as helpers, their names being omitted from the payroll. It will be evident to the most superficial observer that the injuries to a child under twelve years resulting from working a twelve-hour day or a twelve-hour night are greatly lessened if his name is not carried on the payroll! That this statement as to the violations of the law is far within the truth, is brought out in the following extract from the report:

"Not only do the above tables fail to show the full extent of the helper system, but they also fail to show the full number of children under twelve years of age whose names appeared upon the payrolls of the establishments canvassed. The obstacle in the way of obtaining correct ages frequently

proved insurmountable, and, although the investigation was carried into the mill, into the office, and into the homes of the employees, the results obtained were frequently known to be far from accurate. It should be remembered that only those children who were either admitted or positively proved to be under the legal age are included in the above tables."

### *Illiteracy of Mill Children*

A good deal has been written in recent years about the superior educational advantages which the mill children enjoy, as compared with those in the country. The census of 1900 showed that the percentage of illiteracy among mill children in Georgia and the Carolinas was from three to four times as great as that of the white children of the same ages in these states at large. The partial investigation made by the Bureau of Labor, discloses an even more lamentable state of things, proving that the demand for the labor of children is the greatest obstacle to their education.

The following conclusions are reached in the Bureau of Labor report:

"It will be seen by the foregoing table that the highest percentages of illiteracy among the children of cotton mill families were found in Alabama and Virginia. In Alabama, out of 145 children under fourteen reporting, 95 or 65.5 per cent, were unable to read and write. Of these, 42 had never attended school and 53 reported an average attendance of 6.5 months. In Virginia, out of 54 children, 38, or 70.4 per cent, were unable to read and write. Of these 10 had never attended school and 28 reported an average attendance of 10.7 months. The number of Virginia children included in this table is small and there might be hesitation in accepting the percentage as representative for this reason, but the figures of this table seem to be fully borne out by the statements of official reports.

"The lowest per cent of illiterate children under 14 years of age at work in the southern mill families visited was found in Georgia, where, out of 206 reporting, 88, or 42.7 per cent, were stated to be unable to read and write. Of this number, 28 had never attended school and 59 reported an average attendance of 8.9 months. The percentage of illiterates among the children under 14 at work in the Mississippi mill families reported was but slightly higher than in Georgia, namely, 44 per cent.

"That the standard of those reporting themselves able to read and write is low in many cases, will be clearly apparent from an examination of the figures in regard to the average months of school attendance. Thus, in Mississippi, 65 children under 14 reported themselves as able to read and write, but their school attendance averaged only 13.5 months. In North Carolina the average school attendance for 151 such children was only 17.3 and in Alabama for fifty children only 17.5 months. In explanation of these figures, it should be said that in these states, in many school districts, the



public schools are open only four months in the year, and for a child living in such a district 17 months of school attendance would mean attendance for more than four years."

### *Night Labor*

The extent of the employment of children at night is indicated by the following paragraph of the report:

"There were 223 cotton mills in North Carolina in 1908, of which 59 were covered during this investigation. Of these 59, 31 operated at night, not counting two that had within a year discontinued night shifts. In three of these 31 mills neither children under 16 nor women worked at night. In 28 mills, however, women were employed at night; in 27, children under 16 years of age were employed at night, and in 12 of these mills children younger than 12 were employed at night. The investigation was carried on in North Carolina late in 1907. The employment of children at night was not then illegal in that state, but in 1907 a law was enacted which prohibited after that year the employment in factories of children under 14 years old between 8 P. M. and 5 A. M.

"Out of 150 mills reported in 1908 in South Carolina, 36 mills were covered during this investigation. Of these, 5 with night shifts were found, but in one neither children under 16 nor women worked at night. In four mills children under 16 worked at night, in three women worked at night, and in two many children under 12, and some as young as 8, worked at night, which was in violation of the law of that state, which prohibits the employment of children under 12 years old between 8 P. M. and 6 A. M. in factories or mines . . . .

"Taking the 28 North Carolina mills which employed women or children at night, all together, the children working by day in all these mills were 25.32 per cent of all the day employees there, and the 437 children working by night in all these mills were 26.29 per cent of all the night workers. But when these mills are considered separately, or by the departments in them which alone are operated by night, the percentage of children working at night of the total night employees differed widely in some cases. Thus, in 17 of the 28 North Carolina mills the percentage of night workers who were children was higher than the percentage of day workers who were children, while in 10 mills the percentage of day workers who were children was higher than the percentage of night workers who were children, and in one mill there were no children working by night. In 3 of the 4 South Carolina mills which employed women or children by night, the percentage of night workers who were children was higher than the percentage of day workers who were children, and taking the four mills all together, all the children employed by night were 32.15 per cent of all night workers and those employed by day were 22.70 per cent of all day workers. . . .

"The extent of the employment of children at night is indicated by one of several examples:

"Mill No. 1, North Carolina: The night workers say they prefer night work to day work, yet there can be no question that it is far more injurious, for they seldom attempt to get as much sleep as they would get at night. The boys often spend the whole morning in hunting; then, after three or four hours' sleep in the afternoon, they go back to work in the mill for eleven and a half hours at night. The girls sit around the house, not going to bed until ten or eleven o'clock in the morning, and get up about four in the afternoon. In the small crowded houses sound sleep is impossible during the day. The mill demands an extra half day's work on Saturday from its night workers. They quit at six o'clock in the morning and return again at noon. Taking out the time for breakfast and dinner, this allows at the most four hours of sleep out of twenty-four. This means, for women and children especially, working beyond their strength. They have all reached the point of extreme fatigue by the end of the night. Invariably the answer is given by the night workers that it is the Saturday's work that wears them out. Wages for night work are from ten to sixty per cent higher than for day work in this mill, so many choose it for this reason. The work usually runs better at night, they say, too, so they have more time to rest than the day workers have during the actual working hours."

### *Violations of Law*

There were violations of the law, also, in the New England States, chiefly in Maine and Rhode Island. The age limit of employment, however, was two years higher in these New England States than in the Southern States investigated. Out of 1,394 children under sixteen years of age, 458 were found to be illegally employed. In Massachusetts, which made the best record, nineteen children were found illegally employed out of 511 under sixteen years of age. The illegality here consisted in the absence of employment certificates, for only one of these children in Massachusetts was found to be under the legal age of fourteen.

In Maine, 188 children out of 344 under sixteen years of age were illegally employed, and in Rhode Island, 238, out of 450. But, remembering that the age limit in the New England States is fourteen, compare these results with those ascertained in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia by the Bureau of Labor:

"The most extensive violation of the age limit law was found in South Carolina. In addition to 42 children under 12 years of age who were orphans, children of widows, etc., and who were therefore legally employed, 405 other children under 12 were found working in the establishments investigated in that state. As shown by the table such children constituted 12.3 per cent of the total children employed in the 36 establishments investigated and 2.8 per cent of the total number of employees. Children

under the age of 12 years were employed in 34 of the 36 establishments investigated in the state, and 33, or 91.7 per cent, of these 36 establishments employed such children illegally. In 7 of these 33 establishments less than 1 per cent of the employees were children under the legal age and not legally excepted from the provisions of the law. In 20 establishments between 1 and 5 per cent were thus illegally employed. In 3 establishments between 5 and 10 per cent and in 3 others over 10 per cent of all employees were children under 12 years of age who were not legally excepted from the provisions of the law.

"In North Carolina the law was only slightly less flagrantly violated. Of the 59 establishments canvassed, 44, or 74.6 per cent, were found to be employed under the legal age. \* \* \* \* \* In one establishment in North Carolina (No. 44) 12.05 per cent of all employees, a higher percentage than in any other cotton mill investigated in the South outside of Mississippi, which had no child labor law, were under 12 years of age. In the 44 establishments illegally employing children a total of 1,751 children were employed, 202 of whom, or 11.5 per cent, were under the legal age. \* \*

"In Georgia 20 of the 31 establishments investigated, or 64.5 per cent, employed children under the legal age. Two other establishments employed children under 12, but all were employed under legal exceptions. A total of 107 children under 12 years of age were found at work, and of these, 41 were under legal exceptions; the remaining 66 were illegally employed. The 66 constituted 5.8 per cent of the children and 1.05 per cent of all employees in the 20 mills illegally employing children. Of all the children employed in the mills investigated in the state these 66 children constituted 3.6 per cent and of all employees in these mills 0.58 per cent. This is a much lower percentage of illegally employed children than in any other southern state except Virginia."

### *Mill Officials Hide the Children*

One really encouraging feature of the report, considering the low standards of child protection and the unconsciousness of the evil of child labor which prevails in most of the Southern cotton mills, is the statement made by this report that some of the manufacturers shrank from the publicity involved, by attempting to hide the children from the eyes of the investigators:

"In at least 10 mills, 3 in North Carolina, 6 in South Carolina, and 1 in Georgia, deliberate and determined efforts were made by mill officials to cover up the actual conditions in regard to child labor. Children were discharged temporarily, sent home for a few hours or a few days, or hidden in entries, in water closets, or in waste boxes; anywhere so that they would not be discovered by the agent when going through the mill. Of these facts proof was obtained in every case. In 9 of these 10 mills statements of persons acquainted with the facts were taken in the presence of two

agents of the bureau. In each of these cases the report of these statements was signed by both agents, and in 6 cases both of them made affidavits that the conversation was correctly reported. In some of the first mills in which fraud of this character was discovered, the agents reporting the attempts at deception were not required to make special affidavit as to the truth of their reports."

### *Opposing Reform*

But if this is deemed not sufficient evidence to prove the indictment that the cotton mill is the chief sinner against the child, the cotton manufacturers have done all in their power to render its position conspicuous in this regard. The long struggle for better child labor conditions in New England was a struggle against the manufacturers. During the last decade they have been the foremost opponents of standard child labor legislation. In Rhode Island our National Child Labor Committee and the State Committee forced the raising of the age limit from twelve to fourteen against the solid phalanx of cotton mill men. Every effort to make a shorter working day for children in Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts has been met by protests of cotton manufacturers. The recent Governor of Massachusetts, belonging to a celebrated cotton manufacturing and cotton machinery family, threatened to veto any bill reducing the hours of labor for children in Massachusetts. It is because of the prominence of the cotton mill industry that Massachusetts has lost its leadership in the matter of child labor reform to such states as New York, Ohio, and Illinois, that have an eight-hour day for children under sixteen years of age. It is the cotton mill influence in Philadelphia that holds Pennsylvania to the sixty-hour week for children, and in the South it seems to make no difference in this attitude of hostility to child labor reform whether there be few or many cotton mills in the state. The cotton mill men of Maryland have held that state to the lowest age limit of any state north of the Potomac, namely, twelve years. It was the cotton mill men of Virginia who resisted the raising of the age limit there to fourteen, and at the last session of the legislature attempted to repeal the Virginia law prescribing a ten-hour day for women and children. There has not been a meeting of the legislature in ten years in North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Georgia or Tennessee in which the cotton mill men have not appeared as a powerful lobby in the legislature, resisting every advance

in child labor legislation, though frequently, when a compromise has been accepted, they have immediately posed as the successful advocates of child labor reform. It was the cotton mill men in Mississippi, though that state has only a score of mills, who fought the enactment of its first child labor law. It was the cotton mill men of New Orleans who resisted most bitterly the enactment of the excellent Louisiana law. It is the cotton mill men of Texas and Arkansas who have opposed the enactment of a standard child labor law in those states, though the industry is comparatively insignificant. And when I went to the Oklahoma legislature to write its child labor law, the only opponent to child labor legislation was the proprietor of the single cotton mill which Oklahoma possessed. These facts are all matters of record, and while some of the able and astute manufacturers between sessions of the legislature are fond of congratulating themselves upon their advanced position in the matter of child labor reform, and even pass beautiful resolutions at their annual conventions, they are reformers until the legislature meets and there is a prospect for a little better protection for the working children.

*Let Them Come With Clean Hands*

Perhaps the manufacturers of cotton goods, North and South, before they will dare come again before the representatives of the American people asking for practically prohibitive tariff schedules on their infant industry, will have to come with clean hands to justify their claim to so great a benefit; will, in New England, agree to an eight-hour day for children under sixteen, such as is already prescribed by law in such great manufacturing states as New York, Ohio, and Illinois; and with the proper standard of legislation, will see to it that the laws are better enforced. The cotton manufacturers of the Southern States, whose lobbyists ever crowd the doors of every Southern legislature where restriction of the child labor evil, so far as it concerns the cotton mills, is being debated, will have to cease their opposition and agree to the fourteen-year age limit, the short working day for children, the abolition of night work and the enforcement of the law, else the representatives of the American people may withhold protection from those who deny it to the children.

So far as the establishment of a standard child labor law, uni-

form in its requirements, is concerned, it is not too much to say that except for the position of the cotton mill interests this would be a matter of speedy accomplishment. If in New England, Pennsylvania and the Southern cotton manufacturing states, the principles of this standard child labor law could be agreed to, it would be a matter of little trouble and short time to secure similar legislation everywhere else. So we can properly hold accountable the cotton mill industry not only for its direct oppression of childhood, but for holding back the nation itself in the proper protection of the working children. And it seems to me that if there were a spark of the old Southern patriotism left in the hearts of these men, if they could feel any shame at the peculiar position in which they have put the South and hold the South in the matter of child labor, they would at once see that this reproach is removed. The individual loss would be small in any instance, even if the contention cannot be proved that the employment of children itself is a costly error to the business concerned. But when the manufacturers combine in their various industrial associations, and stand together against any legislative protection for the children, they not only keep enslaved the children of the cotton mill industry, numbered by tens of thousands, but children of other industries, which would make no trouble over the enactment of a restrictive law. And through the backward position of the cotton mill states, these manufacturers are really in a wholesale conspiracy against the toiling children of the nation.

I have called the title of this paper, "The Herod Among Industries." If the employment of immature children tends to their bodily, mental, and spiritual degeneracy, an industry so founded upon the basis of child labor, as is this one, can be indicted for child murder, for the Slaughter of the Innocents. The Herods have not been popular among the rulers of history. And if this great industry, engaged in the beneficent business of giving cheap clothing to the world is nevertheless guilty under the indictment, so far as its existence on American soil is concerned, it may well look forward to one of two alternatives, the reform of its child labor conditions or its destruction through economic law or legislative enactment. Already there are cries of distress being heard, pitiful pleas are being made against legislative restriction of child labor on the ground that the industry in the South is in a perilous state.

Japan, building 108 new cotton mills in one year, has already taken possession of the Eastern market. It may very well turn out to be true that with the ever increasing foreign competition which the cotton mill industry in America will have to face, it will become an industry with too low a wage scale to flourish on American soil. And if refusing to be reformed, holding on, to the last gasp, to its child labor system with its long hours and low wages and the defenseless condition of its workers, it is destroyed at last, on its crumbling smokestacks which now proudly flaunt their banners of industry against the sky, men will write the obituary of the ancient Herods:

“They are dead that sought the young child’s life.”